



COLUMBIA LIBRARY COLUMNS



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Columbia Library Columns

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Vice President Krout, Mr. and Mrs. Wouk, and Dr. Logsdon looking at part of the *Caine Mutiny* manuscript.



COLUMBIA LIBRARY COLUMNS



On Being Put Under Glass

HERMAN WOUK

On the evening of January 24, 1956, Herman Wouk presented the manuscripts of his books and plays to Columbia University, at the annual meeting of the Friends of the Columbia Libraries. He delivered the following address in the Rotunda of the Seth Low Memorial Library at Columbia, where a glass-cased exhibition of the manuscripts had been prepared.

I HAVE been growing increasingly uncomfortable in this room as the moments go by. For the first time in my life I see my work under glass. This is not precisely a pleasant feeling. I have half a notion that in one of these empty cases I should be under glass, that I should be horizontal, with my arms folded and with a well-worn-down pen in my hand. *Requiescat in pace!*

I am grateful to Columbia, for thinking that the manuscripts of these novels are worthy of preservation. It is a generous compliment, and rather unexpected; because, for one thing, my work so far has been so frankly designed to entertain. Now, according to some thinkers on the subject of modern literature, that would exclude my work from the category of serious writing. One is told

(or it is at least strongly implied) that novels can be serious or they can be entertaining; they cannot very well be both.

Of course, that was not always believed. Anyone who knows the literature of the past two hundred years knows that in the 18th and the 19th centuries the best fiction was the best entertainment. I need not argue the point; I need but mention names: Fielding, Scott, Balzac, Dickens, Thackeray, Trollope. These were all in the first instance entertainers. What substance and worth was in them had to be included in a frame of beguiling narrative.

In those days the novel held somewhat the position that the movies and television do today. It was the popular form of amusement. Actually it was a little shameful, a little light-headed to read novels. You remember Lydia Languish in *The Rivals*, hiding Smollett's new book under a mattress, when the old lady came in to see what she was doing. Well, all that changed toward the end of the 19th century, did it not? Critics began to take the novel seriously and even to write novels. I think in a way it is too bad that as an art form the novel ever did take a bath and a shave and put on its critical gray flannel suit and become admitted to respectability. Because it was then that the false split between the serious novel and the entertaining novel took firm hold.

It is true, of course, that many trivial novels are entertaining and no more; but it by no means follows—and this is the logical conversion so dear to some—that all entertaining novels are trivial. The young writer in our time has to hack through a real jungle of critical solemnities to arrive at what fiction is all about. I suggest that the object of fiction—and it is the same object that Mozart had in music and Michaelangelo in sculpture—I suggest that the object of fiction is to capture a glimpse of abiding truth in a form that will charm. Charm is not enough, of course, to admit a novel into the category of valuable things. But I think that fiction now—as in the past, and for as long as it will retain its identity as the art form we know—in the first instance has to please. For thinking that way and for pitching my work within that frame, I know I will always be roundly slammed by some critics. But I think too that

the common reader, whose verdict is the one that matters in the long run, will punish me when I work badly and will reward me when I work well.

The presence of Irwin Edman, my old teacher and friend, is very heavily with me this evening. I feel compelled to say something that I might almost be saying directly to him if he were in the first row, which is where he would be if he were alive. This is a sort of closing of a circle, a rounding of a turn in my life. I feel a bit as though I am at an oral examination before the spirit of the University which gave me the intellectual orientation I have, and as though I have to render something of an account.

I was sent out as a product of the University. Irwin might say to me: "Well, Herman, what about your work so far? Can you face the University with what you have done? Beyond its acceptance with the public, what of its intellectual responsibility? What of its place in the life of the mind?"

I know I am of small consequence in the intellectual community, but I hope I have not been untrue to the basic task of the intellectual in our time and in our land.

We do not have intellectuals, it seems to me, in the conventional sense. Our society is not so stratified. People's jobs are not set so sharply apart and, too, we do not have the European tradition stretching back hundreds of years of the "learned group," the monks who did the studying and preserved the life of the mind while the life of the world went on in the hurly-burly outside the monastery walls. Was Lincoln an intellectual? Was Jefferson? Was Franklin? Was Mark Twain an intellectual? In the conventional sense, was Thoreau? Was Dreiser? Was Whitman? It seems to be the mark of the American intellectual that he must be in the hurly-burly and part of it; that he must bring the life of the mind into the market place.

He has, I think, in the United States, a clear-cut job to do. With all deference—and understanding all the time that what I say here is random speculation—it seems to me that the intellectual in the United States is the challenger, the one who is constantly ques-

tioning the complacent ideas, the values that are taken for granted at the hour. In the old societies, the intellectual had the function of justifying the established order; curiously, in the Soviet Union the intellectual has reverted to that position, has he not? He must justify the ways of the Politburo to man. Here, where we have an open society, where we may do as we please, and, where under God's blessing, things are going so very well, thanks to our natural riches and to the wonderful energy that our people have—here the great danger has been, conventionally, generation after generation, excessive self-satisfaction. Dickens reported it venomously but accurately in *Martin Chuzzlewit* and his *American Notes*. Mrs. Trollope reported it. All the European visitors since then have commented on our satisfaction with things as they are and with our values as they stand. Therefore, peculiarly in the United States, the intellectual seems to me to have always been challenging, arguing, asking questions, breaking the familiar molds. So, for instance, Thoreau turned his back on the marvellous industrial world springing up about him and went to live in the woods for thirty cents a day, sustaining his life with his two bare hands, to make a protest against the complacency he saw. I will not labor the point; I think it is very clear.

Well, I too have tried in my thinking to challenge existing values, to throw a question at the unspoken complacencies of the time. The wonderful thing about Irwin Edman was that in a way I was challenging him, and he knew it very well; and yet he encouraged me to do so. Irwin's intellectual views are quite clear in his work. He was an aesthetician of stature; he was a teacher second to none. His philosophical position was that of the toughest-minded naturalistic skepticism. With Irwin this was not merely a fashionable view of life; it was his life. The fact that it was the prevailing view did not make him a conformist, though he was not a rebel either. He had worked his philosophy out for himself, and he maintained it brilliantly. This same naturalistic skepticism has become in our time—in other, lesser hands—a rather wheezy and pettish iconoclasm; flaming youth, one might say, with hardening

(Sequel)

My name is Willie Keite. I played a small but, I think, ~~thrilling~~^{important} part in the Mutiny, especially ^{(at the start, on} the night of the typhoon. It has come to my hand to write the story of the ~~Mutiny~~. ~~mainly because I see that no one else has done so, and the facts of the matter is likely to be lost; and it should not be lost.~~ If I write it as a personal memoir, and become ~~rather~~ garrulous about myself in the process, I ask the reader's indulgence. ~~Most of all I am writing this tale down for my son to read when he is a few years older. I want him to know the~~ ^{what} his father did in the years of the ~~present~~^{war}. I have not ~~spared~~ to include ^{certain} my follies, because I think he can learn from them to be wiser than his parent, and to ~~save~~^(by age) ~~some~~ ~~of~~ ~~them~~ I did to a ~~sensible~~^{reasonable} view of existence, and, in the ~~words~~^(words) of the ~~Prologue~~ to a remembrance of his creator. You will find me ~~speak~~^(speak) writing of myself in the third person, first because of my ^{lesser role} ~~importance~~ in the broad picture of the Mutiny, and second because the Willie Keite of those days

of the arteries. Lately it has developed a few heart murmurs of orthodox belief in economic and psychiatric dogmas. It is beginning to smell much more of the 1920's than of the 1960's. Of course, skepticism itself is an old stable philosophic position; like the hourglass silhouette, it comes and goes. The particular brew of Mencken, Freud, Marx, and Dewey (all four misunderstood and shallowly paraphrased) which has passed so long for genuine sophistication, remains today the most popular intellectual position, at least in writing circles. The professional philosophers have never thought much of it; but even as fashionable patter I believe its vogue is now waning.

I have never been attracted to it. Long ago I found myself drifting in the opposite direction, toward an outlook that presumed to take seriously some familiar religious concepts. They seemed to correspond with truth as I saw it; they liberated my mind for creative effort. The influence of that brilliant American literary dictator, Mencken, was all-pervasive, and I knew that my ideas were practically treason, but I could not help thinking them.

All the time this was happening, I was seeing Irwin constantly. He was amused, of course, and interested, and I think a bit surprised to see the way my mind was working. But he urged me to go on, encouraged me in the way I was going. He used to say that a man had to find and strike his own note.

It is still not quite intellectually respectable even to consider a religious position, I know. It has become a little more respectable in the past few years; but the change as yet does not cut very deep. Perhaps for that very reason, I think I could in honesty make this report to Irwin if he were here tonight. *"I have tried to remain unblinded, Irwin, by the fashionable formulas of the clever ones. I have tried to see life as candidly as I could. I have not conformed so far as I know in my writing, in my thinking, or in my living, to the received patterns of the hour."*

When I started to write novels, the choice was to imitate William Faulkner or Ernest Hemingway or John Dos Passos or James Joyce. Those were the gods of the hour. Had I written my first

novel in any of those styles or in a jumble of all, that would have been quite acceptable. But the fact that I had discovered the 18th and 19th centuries, and had found well-springs of technique and narrative power and wisdom in those novels, should have been a piece of tough luck for me. I should have turned my back on them and followed the current trends. I did not. I thought that my work might be ridiculed, but I wrote as I understood. And I live as I understand.

As a result, my work has gone very much against the grain of current criticism. And in my outlook and in my personal life, I guess I seem something of a non-conformist freak. But I think that in these ways I have been true to what I was taught here at the University.

Something too much of this. The topic seems to be me this evening, and so I have spoken to you candidly and perhaps a little too long on that subject.

I have been writing for ten years. I am forty. The work that I have done lies in these exhibit cases. They are museum pieces. Very good. These plays and these novels were all experiments. I made dreadful mistakes in all of them. I was groping for my tools and trying to find my note. But I hope on the whole they are not bad work. Several of these writings pleased audiences and readers, and each was the best I could do at the time. The failures and the successes were produced with equal concentration and labor.

It seems to me that when I leave you this evening and return to my study, I will be starting on my first novel.

Honor-Books —To Express Appreciation

HELENE G. BAER

AN article in the February, 1954, issue of *Columbia Library Columns* announced a Memorial Book plan by which deceased friends and associates might be remembered with a gift fund to the Columbia Libraries. This would be used for the purchase of books. The Friends of the Columbia Libraries commissioned the distinguished calligrapher, Norman Krinsky, to prepare a specially designed bookplate which can be inserted in the volumes, inscribed with the name of the person who is being memorialized. Many Friends have taken the opportunity to commemorate departed friends in this thoughtful way.

Now, we have an additional plan under which friends, relatives, or others may be honored on an anniversary or for some other special reason. It came about in this fashion. A graduate of Columbia College, '01, received a unique present for his seventy-fifth birthday: notification that two of his friends had given funds to the Libraries for the purchase of books in his honor. Here was a man who "had everything"—but nothing that he received on that festive day pleased him more than this tribute to him and to his Alma Mater. Impressed by the pleasure which this gift gave, the Friends have developed procedures whereby any individual who would like to do so can make such testimonial gifts. An adaptation of the handsome Krinsky bookplate has been prepared for use in these Honor Books.

The procedure for making such gifts to the Libraries parallels that which has been in effect for Memorial Books. The Friends will presently receive a leaflet which shows the bookplates. By filling in the form on the back of the leaflet, it will be possible, when an appropriate occasion arises, to honor a friend with a gift which will live for years in the hands of those who use the Columbia Libraries.

Meet Columbia's Supervising Librarians!

RICHARD H. LOGSDON*

OUR purpose here is to present an overview of the organization and services of the Columbia Libraries. We should enjoy taking you on a tour of our facilities, meeting those in charge, much as was done with the Council of the Friends one day in 1952. Since that seems not practicable at the moment, we shall offer a "verbal tour," in the course of which we shall talk of them, their work, their collections, and how everything is supposed to fit together to meet the total library needs.

Avery (Architecture), Fine Arts, and Music Libraries

An architect by training, James Van Derpool came to Columbia in 1946 to be Librarian of the Avery architecture library and to



James G. Van Derpool, Librarian of Avery and Supervisor of the Architecture, Fine Arts, and Music Libraries

serve as Professor with seats in the faculties of Architecture and Library Service. He served previously at the University of Illinois as a member of the Fine Arts faculty, and from 1939-46 as Head of their Department of Art. He holds degrees from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Harvard, and studied at the American Academy at Rome and the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris. A long term interest in the history and bibliography of architecture led him to make teaching a second

* An article (with portrait) about Dr. Logsdon, Director of the Libraries, was printed in the February, 1955, issue.

responsibility in order to devote most of his time to developing the resources and services of the renowned Avery Library. In 1948, as Columbia's library organization moved further toward a subject-divisional arrangement, Mr. Van Derpool's responsibilities were enlarged to include general supervision first of the Fine Arts Library in Schermerhorn, and later of the Music Library in the Journalism Building.

It has been said that Avery is the ranking architectural library of the world and is sometimes referred to as the National Library of the profession. Rather than to stand solely on these claims we will tell you briefly what Avery is and of our efforts not only to maintain its reputation but to strengthen the basis upon which it rests. Its collections contain the published literature of architecture and the allied arts from the 15th century to the present, as well as manuscripts, original drawings, prints, photographs, extensive holdings in the field of planning and housing, and files of over twelve-hundred architectural periodicals, including over two hundred and fifty current journals published in fifteen different languages. It has also the most extensive periodical index in its field. A copy of almost every known architectural incunabulum has been acquired.

Although primarily a graduate research library serving scholars throughout the nation, its use can best be described as qualitative rather than quantitative. Users expect to find the rarest books in the field as well as comparative editions and commentaries, and while their research may begin elsewhere it generally ends here.

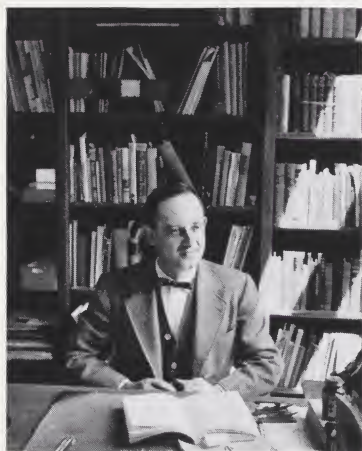
The Fine Arts Library, located in Schermerhorn next to the Avery building, is especially rich in the fields of modern European painting and sculpture, Italian, Flemish, and Dutch painting, French and Italian illuminated manuscripts, and Chinese art. There are also many facsimiles of prints and drawings and an extensive group of periodicals and other art books in Russian.

The Music Library, the third major unit of this Division, is located in the Journalism building on the West side of the campus. The collections go well beyond journals and microfilms, the typi-

cal stock in trade of a library, to include music scores and recordings. Unusual collections include the Anton Seidl library of orchestral scores; the Edward MacDowell collection of first editions and manuscripts; the Judah Joffe collection of discs and cylinders representing a history of phonograph record manufacturing from its beginning to 1925; and finally the Béla Bartok collection, on permanent deposit, of manuscript materials relating to European folk music.

Engineering, Chemistry, Physics and Mathematics Libraries

Columbia has had a long and illustrious record of accomplishment in Engineering and the physical sciences beginning with the



Russell Shank, Librarian of Engineering and Supervisor of the Physical Science Libraries

establishment of the School of Mines by Thomas Egleston in 1864—the first school of its type in the U.S. The present Engineering Library, named for Professor Egleston, is located on the main floor of the Mines Building. Quarters are crowded, awaiting construction of a new Engineering Center and Library. Russell Shank, Engineering Librarian, came to Columbia in 1952 from the Milwaukee Public Library where he served as Personnel Officer. Previously he was Assistant Librarian of

the Engineering Library at the University of Wisconsin, and earlier, a member of the professional staff of the University of Washington Library. Mr. Shank holds engineering and library science degrees from the University of Washington and a graduate degree in Business Administration from the University of Wisconsin. He regularly teaches a course in engineering library

techniques and occasionally teaches a summer course for the School of Library Service. Following the practice of associating related libraries together administratively, Mr. Shank has a general responsibility also for the Chemistry Library in Chandler, the Physics Library in Pupin, and the Mathematics and General Science Libraries in Low. These, together with the extensive holdings of the Medical and Natural Science Libraries, represent a wealth of scientific information from early beginnings to electronics, atomic fission, automation and operations research. The products of American industry in all of its aspects are fully documented in Egleston's collections of trade catalogs and house organs. These represent virtually every important manufacturer whether currently active or long deceased.

Law and International Law Libraries

At this point it should be mentioned that the Columbia Libraries are organized in six divisions which are based on a grouping by related subject fields. This, the third to be described, is the only division housed in one building, although technically it has been necessary to store a substantial part of the collection in the Butler and Low Libraries. Present crowded quarters will be improved when the new Law Center and Library, recently announced, are a reality.

Miles O. Price, Librarian of the Law and International Law Libraries, came to Columbia in 1929 from Washington, D.C., where he had been serving as librarian of the science library of the U.S. Patent Office. Pre-



Miles O. Price, Librarian of the Law and International Law Libraries

viously he had served on the staffs of the University of Chicago and the University of Illinois libraries. He holds degrees from the University of Chicago, the University of Illinois, Columbia and Temple, the latter an honorary LL.D. received in 1954 for his contributions to Law librarianship. His *Effective Legal Research* is a standard text in legal bibliography. In addition to his library responsibilities, Mr. Price teaches the course in Legal Bibliography for the School of Library Service, and lectures frequently to students in the Law School.

Columbia's School of Law, established in 1858, has long held a respected position, nationally and internationally. Such a reputation is simply not possible over a long period of time without a comparably strong library. Beginning immediately after the first world war, collections and services were expanded rapidly, aimed at achieving substantial completeness in fundamental Anglo-American Law and in building up substantial collections of foreign law, particularly for France, Germany, Austria, Italy and Spain.

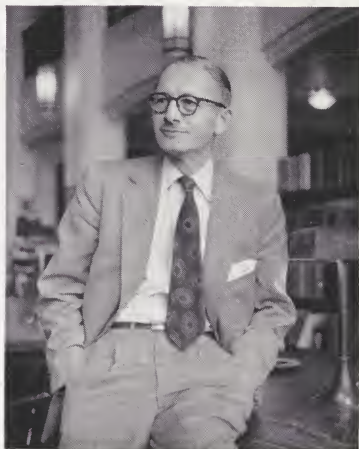
Distinctive in many of its resources and services, the Law Library takes special pride in the completeness and utility of its card catalog—particularly for its analysis of foreign law. For many years, the influences of techniques and procedures developed at the Columbia Law Library have spread well beyond the campus.

Medical and Natural Science Libraries

The modern period in Medical Education and research at Columbia began just over 25 years ago when the College of Physicians and Surgeons moved to its present site at 168th Street and joined with Presbyterian Hospital to create the Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center. Other hospitals and institutes have been brought into the Center so that today it is doubtful if any Medical Center in the world exceeds Columbia's in the range and extent of research, experimentation, and education. The Medical Library serves as the nerve center of information for a research, teaching

staff, and student body exceeding 7,000. Four of Columbia's professional school programs—Medicine, Dental and Oral Surgery, Public Health, and Nursing—are located at the Center. The total clientele of the Medical Library alone exceeds that of many universities.

The Library operation is under the direction of Thomas P. Fleming, who came to Columbia in 1937 from the University of Minnesota, where he served as head of the acquisitions and binding operations and taught in the Library School. Previous to his experience at Minnesota, he served as Assistant in Charge of Departmental Libraries at the Western Reserve University in Cleveland. He holds graduate degrees in both Library Science and Biology from Western Reserve University. In addition to his present responsibility as Medical Librarian and Supervisor of the Medical—Natural Science Libraries, he serves as a Professor in the School of Library Service and in the Faculty of Medicine. A lifetime interest and experience in building research collections in general and science collections in particular is put to daily and continuing use with his staff and readers in meeting the needs of the Medical Center and Schermerhorn science libraries. The latter include the Geology Library, the Map Collection, the Psychology Library, and the Botany-Zoology Library.

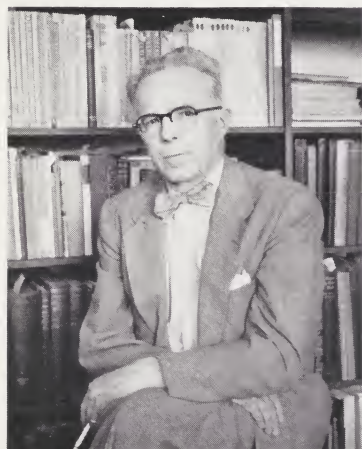


Thomas P. Fleming, Librarian of the Medical and Natural Science Libraries

Special Collections

Columbia's division of Special Collections, located on the 6th, 7th, and 8th floors of Butler Library, comprises a multitude of functions and a variety of material, the common characteristic

being the need for special care or handling with respect to arrangement, preservation, or use. Rare books, manuscripts, and archival



*Roland O. Baughman, Supervisor of
Special Collections*

collections predominate, although a substantial body of material is represented in separate collections such as the Gonzalez Lodge library of classics; the American Type Founders Library of graphic arts materials; the Seligman Library on the history of economics; the Plimpton collection of early books and manuscripts, primarily representing the implements of education; the Smith collection on the history of mathematics; the Park Benjamin collection of New York

City literature, 1830–1860; the Epstein collection on the history of photography; and the Spinoza collection, which represents the lifetime collecting activities of two scholar-specialists and which is virtually complete for the period covered. A recent list of collections of correspondence and original materials identified some two hundred different groups, including such recent acquisitions as the Gouverneur Morris papers and the Santayana manuscripts.

Roland Baughman, Supervisor of this division, came to Columbia in 1946, leaving his post at the Huntington Library where he had served since 1924. He is known to Friends of the Libraries through his regular contributions to *Columbia Library Columns* under the heading "Our Growing Collections." Initially responsible only for Special Collections, his supervisory duties were enlarged first to include the Columbiana Collection and more recently the Library of the School of Library Service, which is housed adjacent to Special Collections.

Mr. Baughman's work extends generally throughout the campus inasmuch as Special Collections contains materials in almost all subjects of a literary or historical nature, the use of which has tripled in the last ten years. He is also responsible for the exhibit program in the Butler Library, which, with the help of a member of the Friends organization, has recently reached a new high in activity and sustained interest.

Butler Division

The Butler Division of the University Libraries is the sixth to be mentioned here, and is the largest of the divisions serving readers as opposed to the back-of-the-scenes work of the Technical Services units. It comprises those libraries, except Law, Fine Arts and Music, which manage the literature of the humanities and the social sciences, approximately one half of the Library's resources. There are ten separate departments in all, representing general reference and circulation services, and the principal facilities and services for Columbia College, the Graduate School of Business, Graduate School of Journalism, General Studies, and the twenty-one departments of instruction in the Graduate Faculties of Philosophy and Political Science.



William L. Williamson, Supervisor of the Butler Division

The Supervisor of this division, William L. Williamson, came to Columbia in 1954 from the University of Chicago where he has been working toward a doctorate in the Graduate Library School. He holds degrees from the University of Wisconsin, Emory, and

Columbia. His experience includes service on the staff of the Atlanta Public Library and Baylor University where he was Assistant Librarian, and later Associate Librarian and Acting Librarian.

The various collections and services which make up this division deserve separate and detailed description, but, in view of space limitations, this will have to await another opportunity.

Acquisitions, Binding, and Photographic Services

This division is the business side of the Libraries, handling procurement whether by purchase, gift, or exchange. It resembles a



Erle P. Kemp, Supervisor of Acquisitions, Binding, and Photographic Services

business operation but with one difference so significant as to all but destroy the analogy. Whereas mass production techniques are based on volume handling of identical items all of which are in production, a research library is precisely the opposite, in that it is dealing usually with single copies of an almost infinite range of items, each with precise specifications, many of which may be out of print and available only in the "second hand" market. It is not generally realized that it takes

as much or more know-how and office man-power to procure a copy of a government leaflet as a grand piano or for that matter, a gross of grand pianos. This is all the more significant when it is realized that something over 300,000 different units of material come into the libraries every year.

Erle P. Kemp, Supervisor of the Acquisitions Division, came to Columbia in 1952 from the University of Miami where he had

served as Serials Librarian. He holds graduate degrees from Columbia University and is a candidate for the Doctor of Library Service at Columbia.

In 1953, a year after Mr. Kemp's arrival, responsibilities of the Acquisitions Librarian were enlarged to include the Binding Department and the Department of Photographic Services; the former handles contracts and flow of work with commercial binders, produces pamphlet bindings locally for thousands of items yearly, and handles the preparations work for all of the books and journals going into the Morningside Heights libraries except Law.

The Department of Photographic Services provides a micro-filming and photostating service for the entire campus, and the preparation of photographic prints and slides for teaching purposes.

Cataloging

This division of the University Libraries has the responsibility of maintaining bibliographical control over the accumulated three million volumes which make up the Columbia Libraries, and of integrating new acquisitions into the collections. Some 150,000 pieces are processed by the department annually. The operation involves preparation of some 365,000 catalog cards annually, which, if laid end to end, would stretch from City Hall to Stamford, Connecticut, roughly thirty miles. Here too, the essential characteristic is the range and diversity of literature, representing essentially all subjects, languages and countries of origin. Although large quantities of material must be handled, each



Altha E. Terry, Supervisor of Cataloging

piece has its distinctive specification as far as entry, classification and subject analysis is concerned.

There are fifty-three staff members in the division, most of whom work in the central cataloging office in Butler Library. Branches of the division, however, are located in the Medical and Law Libraries. The Union Catalog in Butler, representing the cumulative value of many years of staff work, is the most important single asset on the balance sheet of the Libraries. For insurance purposes it has been determined by cost studies that its replacement would take a staff of fifty people nearly 8 years and would involve an expenditure of \$1,154,000.

Altha E. Terry, who heads the Department, is the senior member of this supervisory group in terms of length of service on the staff. In the years since she was appointed as a cataloger in 1916, she has held various administrative positions in the unit and has, with her colleagues, developed procedures for keeping under bibliographic control the incoming publications which have increased so markedly in number and complexity.

She is a graduate of Vassar and has received two professional degrees from Columbia's School of Library Service.

Central Administration

We have now come full circle in our hypothetical tour and are back in the environs of Room 315 Butler, the area known generally as the "Library Office." For our purposes this includes the full range of work normally associated with the administration of a system of libraries including personnel, public relations, supplies and equipment, budget and budget control, payroll certification, space assignment, as well as the offices of Director and Assistant Director of University Libraries.

Charles W. Mixer, Assistant Director, came to Columbia in 1946 from the U. S. Naval Academy where he had served as Librarian from 1938. Previously he had served as a staff member of the Washington, D. C., Public Library, and the Library of Con-

gress. He holds degrees from Harvard and Columbia Universities and served for a while as an Editorial assistant for Ginn and Company.

Mr. Mixer served first as Assistant Director for administration, 1946-48, with responsibility for personnel, budget, supplies, equipment and space utilization. With organizational changes in 1948 he undertook responsibility for the Technical Services. Further changes in organization which took place in 1953 extended his work still further to include primary responsibility for activities related to (1) the Controller of the University; (2) the Department of Buildings and Grounds; (3) Public information; (4) Personnel policies; (5) the University Purchasing agent; and (6) Friends projects and activities.



*Charles W. Mixer, Assistant Director
of University Libraries*

However, in addition to these broad areas of direct responsibility, the combined work of the Assistant Director and Director is interchanged freely throughout the year as particular circumstances suggest. The whole idea has been to establish the concept of an Office of the Director staffed to make decisions and to implement them regardless of the availability of any particular officer, thus using everyone in the Library Office to the fullest.

Our present pattern of organization dates from July 1, 1953. At that time it was stated that there is no one perfect organization for all time but rather a choice of the more promising alternatives at a given time. The present plan was designed to achieve a maximum of autonomy of operations of divisions consistent with a coordinated library system. Meetings of Divisional Librarians are held monthly, with department heads and unit supervisors joining us

quarterly. Every effort is made to have significant questions of policy clear this group.

Our only regret as we come to the close of this tour is that we could not have had you meet all 410 members of the library staff, for the success of the operation rests with their work.

Photographs by Lisa Basch

Gilbert Highet comments on Libraries

No library is useless. The smallest local collection of books may contain unique treasures or inspire a genius. Every library is an assertion of man's durable trust in intelligence as a protection against irrationalism, force, time, and death. A town or church or school without an adequate collection of books is only half alive. Indeed, libraries are far more necessary now than benefactors like Carnegie ever imagined, because, in the constantly growing flood of useless and distracting appeals to our surface attention—rapidly written magazine articles, flimsy and fragmentary newspapers, and torrents of talk, talk, talk pouring from the radio—they provide a place to rest, be quiet, step off the moving platform of the Moment, and think. (From *Man's Unconquerable Mind* by Gilbert Highet. Copyright, 1954, Columbia University Press.



THE recent Julius Caesar exhibit was intended to commemorate the 2000th anniversary of his assassination on the Ides of March, 44 B.C. Professors Moses Hadas and Gilbert Highet agreed to pose for the above picture, assuming in all innocence that librarians can add. Before the exhibit opened local papers carried stories that we were one year too early. Reporters asked whether, in the light of developments, the show would go on. It did, with admission on the labels that our choice of dates was debatable. Never have we had so much publicity! *Time*, *Newsweek* and the wire services carried the word across the land. Publicity with a smirk, but still publicity! The Exhibitions staff took it all in stride. Roland Baughman stubbornly wonders, if chronologists can eliminate the “zero year,” what *won't* they do?— and he reserves his final decision until astronomers and nuclear chemists bring in their verdicts.

Our Growing Collections

ROLAND BAUGHMAN

Authors' manuscripts. Mr. Millen Brand (A.B. 1929), Professor Talbot F. Hamlin (B. Arch. 1914), Mrs. Helen Train Hilles, and Mr. Wilhelm Obkircher added significant materials to the Library's increasing stock of authors' manuscripts. Professor Hamlin's contribution, presented to Avery Library, was his study of Benjamin Henry Latrobe; Mr. Brand and Mr. Obkircher added to materials which they had already presented, and Mrs. Hilles contributed a considerable packet of literary criticisms by Professor Mabel Louise Robinson of manuscripts that had been submitted for her comment.

Barnouw gift. Professor Adriaan J. Barnouw presented a rare illustrated book, *Prael-Treyn verrykt door ry-benden*. . . Mechelen [1775?], with numerous engravings depicting various equipages of a procession.

Barrett gift. Mr. C. Waller Barrett presented a superb run of 29 rare editions and variants of the published writings of Stephen Crane. Included in the gift, which was inspired in part by our plans for a Crane exhibition, are: the rare first state of *The Red Badge of Courage*, 1895; an almost unbelievably pristine copy of Crane's first novel, *Maggie* "by Johnston Smith," [1893]; and one of three known copies in full vellum binding of *The Black Riders*, 1895.

Mr. Barrett is also lending us, for use in the exhibition, all of his own Crane material, including association copies, original manuscripts, letters, excerpted writings for magazines and newspapers, and contemporary criticism.

Benjamin gift. Mrs. Harold G. Henderson (Miss Mary A. Benjamin, A.B. 1925B) has presented four letters and one invitation by various presidents of Columbia.

Berol gift. Mr. and Mrs. Alfred C. Berol have given a collection of books, magazines, etc., numbering almost four hundred pieces, comprising a nearly complete accumulation of the published work of the famous book illustrator, Arthur Rackham. The collection



"Jack and the Beanstalk"; original pen and water-color drawing by Arthur Rackham. This drawing was published in black-and-white in *English Fairy-Tales Retold by Flora Annie Steel* . . . London: 1918. Presented by Mr. and Mrs. Alfred C. Berol.

was formed by Sarah Briggs Latimore, who, in collaboration with Grace Clark Haskell, published a definitive bibliography of Rackham in 1936. This gift by Mr. and Mrs. Berol contains the extremely rare *To the Other Side* by Thomas Rhodes (1893), the first book to contain drawings by Rackham (his earlier work had

been for magazines); a copy of the limited edition of Irving's *Rip Van Winkle* (1905), with an original water color drawing by Rackham on the half-title; the scarce and costly *Peter Pan Portfolio* (1912); and an original water-color drawing of "Jack and the Beanstalk," which was used as an illustration in Flora Annie Steel's *English Fairy Tales*, 1918.

An exhibition of this remarkable collection, which in all probability could not be assembled again, is being planned for the fall of 1956.

Cuddihy gift. Mr. John M. Cuddihy (M.A. 1948) presented sixteen items of significance in the field of philosophical studies.

Eagles gift. Mr. Homer M. Eagles presented a number of volumes of the transactions of the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers, together with publications of the United States Geological Survey and Bureau of Mines.

Fahs gift. Mr. Charles B. Fahs continued his past benefactions by presenting a number of books and periodicals, mainly in the area of East Asian studies.

Farrelly bequest. Through the bequest of the late Theodore Slevin Farrelly, a number of books, periodicals, maps, and similar materials relating to Alaska were received.

The Federalist Papers. Through the generosity of a member of the Class of 1916, funds were presented for the purchase of a unique copy, uncut and in the original boards, of *The Federalist*, New York, 1788. The two-volume set is of the first edition, and it bears the autograph of its original owner, Isaac Roosevelt (great-great-grandfather of Franklin D. Roosevelt), on the title-page of Volume I. Of high interest to Columbia scholars—especially Professor Richard Morris—are the annotations made by Isaac Roosevelt to indicate the authorship of the various sections of the work.



The Federalist . . . New York: 1788. 2 volumes. The first edition, in the original boards, uncut. With the autograph of Isaac Roosevelt, great-great-grandfather of Franklin D. Roosevelt, on the title-page. Presented by a member of the Columbia College Class of 1916.

Friedman gifts. Mr. Harry G. Friedman (Ph.D. 1908) has continued his generous gifts of rare and useful books. To be acknowledged at this time are twelve valuable items, including several

works produced from the early 16th (possible the late 15th) through the 18th century.

Greve presentation. Members of the family of the late Henry C. Greve (B.S. 1952) donated to the Egleston Library his collection of nearly a hundred current textbooks and monographs in the field of engineering.

Healy gift. Through that weird alchemy of the editorial process which transmutes the names of people between copy and finished printing, Mrs. Charles Healy's generous gift of 215 volumes in the fields of history, political science, and literature was credited in the February issue of *Library Columns* to Mrs. David Healy. We are indeed sorry that this mischance occurred.

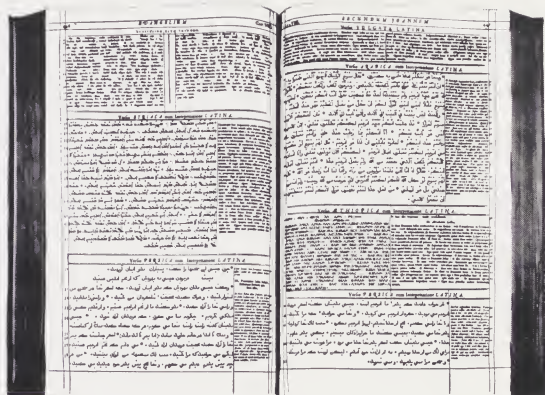
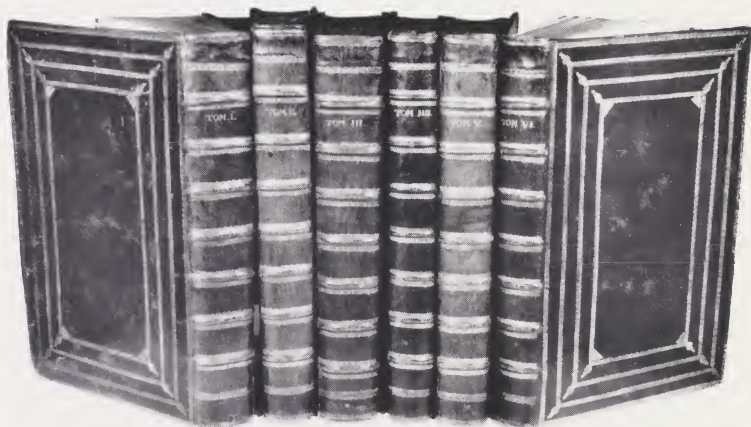
Hibbitt gift. Mrs. George W. Hibbitt presented twelve volumes of Brander Matthews' writings, nine of which bear the author's presentation inscriptions to Mrs. Hibbitt's father, the late Professor Ashley H. Thorndike.

Houghton gift. Mention was made in an earlier issue of *Columbia Library Columns* of the gift by Mr. Arthur Houghton, Jr., of a year's subscription to the publications of the Lion and Unicorn Press of London. The second of the projected three titles has reached us: *The Life of John Wilkes, Patriot*.

Lenygon gift. Mrs. Francis Henry Lenygon has crowned her long series of gifts to the Libraries with the presentation of an early 18th-century panelled room from the town house of the Earls of Warwick. As re-installed in Avery Library it is to be utilized as a place for the study of rare books, manuscripts and drawings in the Avery collections. A fine antique Siena marble mantelpiece and an early 18th-century carved breakfront bookcase, antique damask window hangings, and several fine pieces of old china are included

in the gift. A full description of the room, its contents, and its purpose is planned for a future issue of *Library Columns*.

In addition to the articles already mentioned, Mrs. Lenygon has also presented to Avery Library a delightful collection of original 18th-century carved wood mouldings from various noted English mansions.



English Polyglot Bible, edited by Brian Walton. London: Thomas Roycroft, 1657. 6 volumes. The Bible text is given in Hebrew, Greek, Chaldaic paraphrase, Samaritan, Syriac, Arabic, Persian, and Ethiopic versions; Latin Vulgate, and various other Latin translations. *Presented by a member of the Columbia College Class of 1916.*

London Polyglot Bible. During the 16th and 17th centuries four great polyglot Bibles were issued in various parts of Europe by as many scholarly presses. The Columbia Libraries already possessed the first two of the series (the so-called Complutensian Polyglot Bible sponsored by Cardinal Ximenez and produced at Alcala in Spain in 1517, and Plantin's monumental edition of 1572). Now through the gift of a member of the Class of 1916 funds have been received for the purchase of a beautiful copy, in its original binding, of the famous English Polyglot Bible, issued by Thomas Roycroft in 1657. Because of this generous gift only one of the series remains a lacuna at Columbia, LeJay's Paris edition of 1655.

Matthews gift. Paterno Library received 55 volumes relating to Dante, the gift of Mr. Herbert L. Matthews (A.B. 1922).

Mead gift. Approximately 800 issues of periodicals, principally in the field of anthropology, were received from Dr. Margaret Mead (A.B. 1923, A.M. 1924, Ph.D. 1929).

Nevins gift. Professor Allan Nevins added substantially to his past gifts by presenting a number of early volumes of New York newspapers, additional correspondence from his own files, and other materials. Of prime interest are two volumes containing the manuscript diary of Brand Whitlock, to be added to the series already presented by Professor Nevins.

Pegram gift. Dean and Mrs. George B. Pegram (Ph.D. 1903) presented some fifty books and pamphlets, comprising mainly Columbia University Press books and volumes issued in the National Nuclear Energy Series.

Prendergast gift. Miss Eleanor Prendergast (A.M. 1927) presented 33 printed works and 3 typescript volumes of material concerning the political life of William A. Prendergast, former Comptroller in New York City.

Putnam papers. The daughters of the late George Haven Putnam, Mrs. Joseph Lindon Smith and Miss Bertha Haven Putnam (Ph.D. 1909), presented manuscripts and documents, including correspondence, by and relating to their father.

Russell gift. Mrs. Albert L. Russell, a student in the School of Library Service, presented four beautiful volumes printed by Victor Hammer at his Anvil Press in Lexington, Kentucky. The volumes, each containing one of the four Gospels, were produced during 1954 and 1955.

Russell bequest. Through the good offices of Miss Mary M. Kenway and Miss Margaret Morison, executors, the estate of the late Miss Sarah B. Russell presented an outstanding group of 19th-century children's books, numbering more than three hundred. The books, which are to be housed in the Children's Historical Collection of the School of Library Service Library, largely comprise pleasure reading of the period—mainly stories for young girls—and there are a number of toy books with movable features. The collection, which is for the most part in remarkably good condition, is gratefully received, for many of the items are of the sort that seldom outlasts the happy mishandling of children.

Ruutz-Rees bequest. Through the bequest of the late Caroline Ruutz-Rees (A.M. 1907, Ph.D. 1910) approximately 800 volumes were received, to be added to the 2,000 which were reported earlier. The bequest brings to Columbia an extraordinarily well-rounded collection, with emphasis on philosophy, history, and literature.

Wright gift. Professor Ernest Hunter Wright (Ph.D. 1910) presented Littré's useful *Dictionnaire de la Langue Française*, in five volumes.

Activities of the Friends

Meetings

THE series of Friends' events for this academic year came to a culmination on Monday, April 23, at the Bancroft Awards dinner in the Men's Faculty Club. The high point of the program was the announcement by President Kirk of the names of the winners of the prizes for the two books judged by the Bancroft Prize Jury to be the best in the field of American history published during 1955: *Last Full Measure: Lincoln the President* by J. G. Randall and Richard N. Current, and *Henry Adams* by Elizabeth Stevenson. He then presented the two \$2,000 awards to Miss Stevenson and jointly to Professor Randall's widow and Professor Current. Certificates were presented to Mr. Edward H. Dodd, Jr., President of Dodd, Mead and Company, and to Mr. George P. Brett, Jr., President of The Macmillan Company, the publishers respectively of the two books.

The principal speaker of the evening, Oscar Hammerstein II, gave an enthralling and optimistic report on the vitality of the stage today, pointing out that although there are many fewer legitimate theaters now than there were, say, twenty years ago, drama via the stage, motion pictures, and television is reaching more people than ever before. "Shakespeare who was so successful in writing for those in the pit and those in the boxes, would," he said, "have been delighted if one of his plays could have been performed to an audience of forty million people on one evening, a possibility which exists today."

August Heckscher, Chairman of the Friends, was master of ceremonies.

Finances

It has been customary in the May issue to record for our membership the total amount which has been contributed by the Friends during the twelve-month period which ends on March 31. During the past year there were \$4,470.50 in unrestricted contributions and \$13,977. for specified purposes, making a total in cash gifts amounting to \$18,447.50. Especially notable among these were the following: from an alumnus of the Columbia College Class of 1916, \$10,000 for a copy of the first printed edition of Marco Polo's *Travels*, \$1,350 for a copy of *The Federalist*, and \$375 for The English Polyglot Bible; from the Roger Benjamin Fund, \$1,000 for the N. M. Butler Centennial Fund for the renovation and expansion of the general library; and from the Four Oaks Foundation through the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Donald F. Hyde, \$1,000. The total cash gifts of the Friends over the past two years now amount to \$80,124.98.

In addition, the Friends have enriched the Libraries' holdings by presenting during the past year books, manuscripts, and collections which have an estimated valuation of \$29,543. This brings the total value of such gifts since January 1, 1951, to \$144,605. The major items have been described in "Our Growing Collections," a regular feature in *Columbia Library Columns*.

The comparative figures for contributions by our members (including some which came in during the period from December, 1950, to April 30, 1951, when activation of the Friends' organization was planned) are as follows:

	<i>Cash Gifts</i>			<i>Book and manuscript gifts</i>	<i>Total value of gifts</i>
	<i>Unrestricted</i>	<i>For special purposes</i>	<i>Total</i>		
1950-52 (Dec., 1950-March 31, 1952)	\$4,348.00	\$41.00	\$4,389.00	\$2,515.00	\$6,904.00
1952-53 (April 1-March 31)	4,423.00	4,132.98	8,555.98	43,653.00	52,208.98
1953-54 (April 1-March 31)	3,166.00	13,223.50	16,389.50	53,643.00	70,032.50
1954-55 (April 1-March 31)	2,413.00	29,930.00	32,343.00	15,251.00	47,594.00
1955-56 (April 1-March 31)	4,470.50	13,977.00	18,477.50	29,543.00	47,990.50
	<u>\$18,820.50</u>	<u>\$61,304.48</u>	<u>\$80,124.98</u>	<u>\$144,605.00</u>	<u>\$224,729.98</u>

As of March 31, our membership is 290.

THE FRIENDS OF THE COLUMBIA LIBRARIES

PRIVILEGES

Invitations to exhibitions, lectures and other special events.

Use of books in the reading rooms of the libraries.

Opportunity to consult Librarians, including those in charge of the specialized collections, about material of interest to a member. (Each Division Head has our members' names on file.)

Free subscription to COLUMBIA LIBRARY COLUMNS.

* * *

The By-Laws provide the following classes of membership:

ANNUAL. Any person contributing not less than \$10.00 per year, except that officers of administration, officers of instruction, and officers of the Libraries of Columbia University may be elected Annual Members without any stipulated dues.

CONTRIBUTING. Any person contributing not less than \$25.00 a year.

SUSTAINING. Any person contributing not less than \$50.00 per year.

BENEFACTOR. Any person contributing not less than \$100.00 and up per year.

HONORARY. This membership to be by special action of the Council for outstanding services given to the Libraries of Columbia.

Checks should be made payable to Columbia University. All donations are deductible for income tax purposes.

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